MR. KINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanacherry* cum *Peermade*) : Sir, in reply to a previous question it was stated that relief measures will be extended to all parts of the State. Now it is stated that the whole amount is alloted to Alleppey only. How am I to reconcile that ?

PRESIDENT : I think there is some confusion over this matter. The problem presented itself actually to Government in Alleppey and in its environs where it was found that the coir manufacturers could not ship their goods and so had to dis-enroll many of their employees. When investigation took place in regard to the plight of the labourers so thrown out of employment, it came to light that there were a good number of persons of small-scale factories who were also thrown out of employment. On a rough calculation, the total number of unemployed labourers come to about twenty to thirty thousand who were nearly starving. As time could not be lost, immediate arrangements were made in regard to them primarily. As soon as the honourable members of the House and various other persons came to know of this, they, not unnaturally, put forward the claims of their localities and Government had, in order to deal with that matter, to take a kind of conspectus of all those local claims. If it is beyond the reach of Government to deal with the problem adequately then it may be that new measures will have to be contemplated. The idea is to render help firstly to Alleppey-Shertallai area and secondly to Quilon-Chirayinkil area by specially starting down P. W. D. Works. But we may have to face a more serious situation caused by the repercussions of the present situation.

Unemployment among the people employed in coir industry in Chirayinkil taluk.

209 ***MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN** (*Chirayinkil* cum *Nedumangad*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they are aware that the people employed in coir industry in the coastal villages of Chirayinkil taluk are out of employment at present ; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether they have made any arrangement for the amelioration of their condition ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : (a) Yes.

(*b*) Arrangements are in progress for taking measures to expand the market for coir goods and to find fresh markets, and when these are achieved, it is hoped that there will be work available for those who may be now out of employment.

MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN : May I know whether it is known to Government that 50% of the coir workers are women and children ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : Yes Sir.

MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN : May I know Sir, whether any immediate relief is made available to them ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS : Well, Sir, I have already said that steps are bieng taken to alleviate their distress.

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MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Sir, in the light of the answer given now, can the P. W. D. works be of aid to women and children?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR: They can be asked to carry loads of sand or earth.

PRESIDENT: Certainly women and children can do that.

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR: Sir, at the meeting of the unemployment Relief Committee which was held on the 30th July *i. e.* day before yesterday, the wages which are payable to the men, women and children who are to be employed on the relief work were settled in consultation not only with the members of the Chambers of Commerce but also with the representatives of labour who were present at the meeting. This will show that the relief measures are intended not only for factory labourers but also for other labourers.

PRESIDENT: Also instructions are given to the officers of the department of Public Works that labour saving appliances will not be resorted to during this period.

Malaria in Vilavankod.

210 ✽**MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR** (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether malaria is prevailing in certain pakuthies of the Vilavankod taluk; and

(*b*) the preventive measures taken by the Government to check the spread of the disease?

DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI (*Director of Public Health*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Vilavankod is also within the jurisdiction of the Special Officer appointed for combating Malaria.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: With regard to part (b) of the answer may I know from Government whether they could furnish any more information?

DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: Latest preventive measures have been adopted. Distribution of quinine is regularly done in certain parts of the Vilavankod taluk *viz.*, in Edakode, Kalial and other places.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: May I know the quantity of quinine supplied last year?

DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI Quinine was distributed according to necessity and the quantity specially distributed in Vilavankod taluk is not known.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Through what agency is this work being done?

DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: Sanitary Inspectors are appointed and quinine is distributed to every house.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: മൂവാറ്റുപുഴ താലൂക്കിലെ കുട്ടമംഗലം പകുതിയിൽനിന്ന് അടുത്ത കാലത്തു് മന്നാൻകണ്ടത്തിൽ പോയ ആളുകളിൽ ചിലർക്ക് പനി പിടിക്കുകയും ഒന്നു രണ്ടുപേർ വഴിയിൽ വച്ചുതന്നെ മരിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതായി അറിയാമോ?

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